

Highlander here for a wee dram

Strap on your sporran and hike up your kilt, the Highlander is arriving soon for a wee sip of scotch.

But before you get your bagpipes in a knot, don't worry, he'll probably be too busy shooting a TV series named after him to do any serious swilling.

The series is a spinoff of the 1986 movie Highlander (starring Sean Connery and Christopher Lambert) about an immortal being who's tracked from 16th-century Scotland to modern-day America by his eternal arch-enemy.

So far, there's no word about any casting for the syndicated series; the production offices have just opened and phone calls are flying back and forth to the co-producers in Paris.

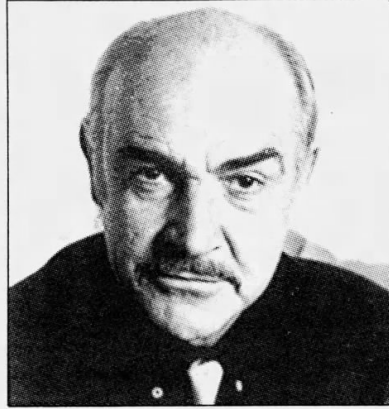
They begin shooting on July 6 and will be in production until the end of November.

KIBBLES 'N' BITS Meanwhile, Jack London's Call of the Wild, the TV movie being shot at Whistler, wraps up this week. They've also been shooting in Barkerville, Quesnel, on the old Bordertown set and this week at Bunsen Lake.

And we're talking dog days of summer here: The star of the



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Sean Connery
played an immortal tracked from Scotland to America by his arch-enemy.

movie is a sled dog named Buck and, naturally, Buck needs a double. Actually, there are four Bucks (German shepherds Vilas, Mickey, Rocky and Thumper). Then there are the malamutes, Yukon and King, who play Spitz, and another Buck and Teddy (the wolves from the movie Dances With Wolves) who also have several wolf doubles.

Trainer Karl Miller, who recently put Beethoven through his paces, must be doggone dizzy.

DON'T TELL THE BIG BAD WOLF In case you missed The Insider's debut on BCTV's Noon

News with **Deb Hope** last Monday, here's what I've been doing in my spare time.

On the set of the ABC TV Christmas movie To Grandmother's House We Go, I chatted with the adorable Olsen twins, **Mary Kate** and **Ashley**, who will be six years old this month.

They play twins whose single mother (played by Northern Exposure's **Cynthia Geary**) gives them the mistaken impression that she's sick of them.

"She says she needs a vacation, so we give her a vacation," says Mary Kate. "And then she sees us at the end," says Ashley.

On Monday, in a log cabin complete with duckling-stocked pond tucked away in a North Van suburban park, they filmed the twins' tearful reunion with their mother.

Later, after lunch, we talked again. What was on the menu? "Ras-getti," they said.

Adria Later, the twins' acting and dialogue coach, explained how she teaches them their lines, and we saw how she signals them from behind the camera when it's their turn to speak.

This is the first time they've had to memorize dialogue; on their TV sitcom Full House, where they play Michelle, they've always been fed the lines, which they simply repeat.

I can report they're real troupers; they do take after take, with no complaints; they're well-behaved and professional.

Needless to say, the cast and crew are smitten. **Jeff Franklin**, the creator and director of the movie (and Full House as well), wrote the picture just for them so they could appear on camera together. Can't wait for Christmas.

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